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Dear Commissioner,

More and more antibiotics are encountering resistant pathogens. Resistance often begins when the pathogen meets a small dose of the antibiotic. This is likely when a micro-organism is exposed to the kind of concentrations of antibiotics found in animal feed when they are used to promote growth. I understand that this use, or misuse, of antibiotics accounts for about a third of antibiotic sales and is of course therefore promoted by the manufacturers.

Because of the risk of causing resistance, the World Health Organization has called for a ban on the use of medically important antibiotics to promote animal growth. This position is rightly supported by the Union of Concerned Scientists and by the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

I respectfully request that the Food and Drug Administration withdraw its approval for the use of medically important antibiotics to promote animal growth. They could of course remain available for treatment of sick animals.

.Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

*David M. Jackson*

99P-0485

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Jane Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner  
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